Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

August 27, 2021

Rear Admiral Thomas G. Allan, Jr. Commander, First Coast Guard District United States Coast Guard 408 Atlantic Avenue Boston, MA 02110

Dear Rear Admiral Allan:

We write to you regarding United States Coast Guard (USCG) Station Scituate and concerns that have been brought to our attention related to its future.

On June 9th, 2021 the USCG published a document in the Federal Register requesting comments for the planned consolidation of redundant Coast Guard Boat Stations. Station Scituate, a small seasonal station in Massachusetts, was named on this list as a station slated for consolidation. Subsequent to this publication, several leaders and local officials from Scituate and the surrounding communities contacted our offices to share their concerns with the proposal, including that they had only been notified of this development on Friday July 23rd and that the comment period would end on Tuesday August 3rd. We greatly appreciate the Coast Guard's decision to move this deadline to submit comments from August 3rd to September 22nd, as this will allow many in the Scituate area who have only just recently found out about this proposed consolidation plan to share their questions and concerns in a more timely manner. We believe more time is needed to assess this situation and its potential impact to South Shore communities.

Local leaders and officials from Scituate, Cohasset, Marshfield, Duxbury, Plymouth, and other South Shore communities have argued that Station Scituate is not a redundant station, but a crucial and geographically necessary station based on recent search and rescue operations and an increase in commercial and recreational boater activity in these waters. During a briefing call with USCG District One staff, congressional staff were informed that rescue responsibilities for this area would fall to Coast Guard Station Point Allerton in Hull and Coast Guard Station Cape Cod Canal, both of which are a considerable distance from these impacted communities. Considering the increase in boater activity and the legitimate response time and distance concerns raised by the local officials, we respectfully request that the Coast Guard reconsiders its decision to consolidate Station Scituate and works with the South Shore communities to reach a mutually beneficial outcome.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. If you or your colleagues have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Nolan O'Brien in Senator Markey's Boston Office at Nolan_OBrien@Markey.Senate.gov or (857)-303-1374.

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Sincerely,

Edward J. Markey United States Senator

Elizabeth Warren United States Senator

Stephen F. Lynch

United States Representative

William R. Keating

United States Representative